

**A note for teachers:** This list may be shared with families and children to find objects (manipulatives) already present in their households. After the list is a *manipulative choice board*. Allow students to use this visual to find and make choices about the manipulatives they will use from their home. There is power in allowing students and families to bring pieces of their world into the mathematics they are learning from school.

**How do I start?**

You can begin by allowing students time to explore the manipulatives they have available at home. Students will learn to build and create, stay engaged and focused, work hard, and explore their own math ideas. As students build stamina, incorporate activities that utilize concrete manipulatives. The final page of this document offers links to some simple but meaningful math activities from Kathy Richardson students can engage in using their home manipulatives.

## Dear Families,

This resource has been created to help your child identify and find resources already in your home that can support learning. Below you will find a list of possible objects your child can use, as well as a visual chart of the objects that may also help your child think about the possibilities. Last, find several math activities your child can engage in using objects like the ones on this list. Feel free to let your children be creative and make choices about the objects they use to complete the activities.

### KITCHEN

- macaroni or other uncooked small noodles
- beans
- bread tags
- small snack foods (Goldfish, berries, candies, cereal)
- water bottle caps
- toothpicks
- silverware
- egg cartons (cut to make 5 in a row or 2 rows of 5)
- cups and bowls
- cupcake liners

### BATHROOM

- cotton balls
- cotton swabs
- rubber bands or hair bows





















### TOYS

- Legos
- game pieces (i.e. checkers)
- blocks
- small cars
- small animals or other small toy

### OTHER

- pennies
- screws, nuts, or bolts
- buttons
- beads
- pom poms
- clothespins
- popsicle sticks
- rocks or stones
- paperclips

# Manipulatives from Home Choice Board

<p>paperclips</p> 	<p>buttons</p> 	<p>cotton swabs</p> 	<p>cupcake liners</p> 
<p>cups</p> 	<p>crackers</p> 	<p>Legos or blocks</p> 	<p>cotton balls</p> 
<p>toothpicks</p> 	<p>crayons</p> 	<p>candies</p> 	<p>silverware</p> 
<p>pom poms</p> 	<p>cereal</p> 	<p>egg cartons</p> 	<p>small toys</p> 
<p>beans</p> 	<p>rocks</p> 	<p>pennies</p> 	<p>pasta</p> 

## Meaningful Mathematics Activities for Families and Teachers to Do at Home

Click on the links below to find **simple but meaningful activities** which give students repeated math experiences. These activity cards from Kathy Richardson's *Developing Number Concepts* have been adapted to use items from home such as the ones listed above.

### Counting Activities

[Hunt for It: at Home](#)

[Grab a Handful: at Home](#)

### Comparing Quantities Activities

[Comparing Containers: at Home](#)

[Grab Bag Comparing: at Home](#)

### Addition/Subtraction Activities

[The Tub Game: at Home](#)

[Grab Bag Subtraction: at Home](#)

### Ten and Some More Activities

[Two Ten Frame Addition: at Home](#)

[Two Ten Frame Subtraction: at Home](#)

[Homemade Spinner Directions](#)

### Place Value Activities

[Race to 100: at Home](#)

[Measuring Things in the Room: at Home](#)

### Multiplication and Division Activities

[Cups of Counters: At Home](#)

[How Many in the Cups?: At Home](#)

[Math Games for Families](#)